

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9777

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 10043

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ID PT

SUBJ: PORTUGUESE TIMOR DELVELOPMENTS

1. FOLLOWING ARE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN PT SITUATION AS WE UNDERSTAND THEM FROM INDONESIAN SOURCES. INDO-NESIANS SAY THEY HAVE SOME CONFIRMATION OF NEWS REPORTS THAT PORTUGUESE ARMY IN PT NOW MOVING TO RE-ASSERT ITS AUTHORITY AND REESTABLISH CONTROL IN DILI. CLASHES (BETWEEN UDT AND FRETILIN) ARE CONTINUING, BUT AT LOWER LEVEL THAN PREVIOUS DAYS. NEWS REPORT THAT UDT AND FRETILIN JOINING FORCES AGAINST PRO INDONESIAN APODETI IS CONSIDERED BY THESE INDONESIANS AS PROBABLE DISTORTION OF UDT ANNOUNCEMENT (REPORTEDLY BROADCAST AUGUST 14 FROM DILI) THAT UDT FORMING RULING JUNTA AND NATIONAL UNITY FRONT AND REQUESTING FRETILIN TO JOIN FRONT AS LONG AS COMMUNIST-LEANING ELEMENTS IN FRETILIN EXCLUDED. STATEMENT ALSO CONDEMNED ELEMENTS SUPPORTING INTEGRATION WITHINDO-CONFIDENTIAL

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NESIA BUT DID NOT MENTION APODETI BY NAME, AND ALSO RE-

REPORTEDLY CALLED ON GOVERNOR PERES TO REMAIN AS GOVERNOR UNDER JUNTA AND TO EXPELL ALL COMMUNIST ELEMENTS FROM PT. PERES ALSO REPORTEDLY MADE BROADCAST AUGUST 14 CALLING ALL PT OFFICIALS TO BRIEFING AT 1700 THAT DAY. OUTCOME OF BRIEFING NOT YET KNOWN TO INDONESIAN (WHO SAY THEY CAN NOW MONITOR ALL DILI BROADCASTS), BUT OUR SOURCES SPECULATE THAT REPORTED ARMY MOVES IN DILI MAY REFLECT PERES REJECTION OF UDT APPROACH.

2. INDONESIAN SOURCES ALSO REPORT THAT GOP EMISSARY ANTONIO SUARES HAS NOW (AUG 16 AM) LEFT JAKARTA FOR KUPANG VIA BALI, CONTRARY TO EARLIER REPORTS THAT HE ARRIVED JAKARTA AND CONTINUED TO BALI SAME DAY AUG 14. REASON FOR DELAY IN SUARES ONWARD TRAVEL GIVEN BY INDONESIANS AS RELATED TO HIS ARRIVAL WITHOUT VISA, THOUGH SOURCES IMPLIED THAT GOI ACTUALLY DECIDED TO AWAIT OUTCOME OF PERES-UST BARGAINING BEFORE DETERMINING WHETHER TO FACILITATE SUARES ONWARD TRAVEL.

3. PRESIDENT SUHARTO IN STATE ADDRESS OPENING NEW PARLIAMENT SESSION MORNING AUGUST 16 RESTATED DECOLONIZATION, INCLUDING DECOLONIZATION OF PT, IT HAS NO TERRITORIAL AMBITIONS BUT WOULD ACCEPT PT INTO INDONESIA IF PEOPLE OF COLONY SO WISH. STATEMENT ON TIMOR WAS INSERTED (REPORTEDLY AT LAST MINUTE, FORCING WITHDRAWAL OF PREPRINTED TEXTS OF SPEECH) INTO FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECTION OF SPEECH, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING STRONG STATEMENT THAT GOI WILL NOT TOLERATE INTERNAL COMMUNISM AND REGARDS SUPPORT FOR PKI AND SHELTERING OF PKI LEADERS BY FOREIGN NATIONS TO BE UNFRIENDLY ACTS.

4. GOI CABINET LEVEL NATIONAL POLITICAL AND SECURITY STABILIZATION COUNCIL GROUP SAID TO BE PLANNING MEETING ON MONDAY, AUGUST 18 TO REVIEW TIMOR SITUATION; MEANTIME INDONESIAN ARMED FORCES SAID TO REMAIN IN ALERT STATUS BUT REMAINING IN PLACE.

5. GOI HAS NOW REPORTEDLY CLOSED TIMOR TO TRAVEL BY FOREIGN NEWSMEN, AND IS PROHIBITING SEVERAL FOREIGN REPORTERS NOW IN KUPANG FROM TRAVELING IN DIRECTION OF
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